

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 EA-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 INR-05 CIAE-00  
SP-02 PRS-01 PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 NSAE-00 EUR-08  
OES-02 EB-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 H-01 ACDA-10 /070 W  
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R 240933Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5563  
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USLO PEKING

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 0787

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, PK, CH, US, FR, PINT  
SUBJECT: PRC AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS ON PAKISTAN

1. DURING PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS JAN 23, PRC AMB LU WEI-CHAO  
GAVE ME THE FOLLOWING VIEWS ON PAKISTAN.

A. HE THOUGHT THERE WAS NO PRACTICAL PURPOSE IN  
PAKISTAN'S ACQUISITION OF A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT  
WHICH WOULD BE COSTLY AND UNNECESSARY. HE HAD READ WITH  
INTEREST THAT FRANCE HAD MADE SOME SORT OF PROPOSAL TO  
CHANGE THE FORM OF THE PLANT. I EXPLAINED U.S. OPPOSITION  
TO THE PLANT, OUR LEGISLATIVE CONSTRAINTS AND NEW AID  
COMMITMENTS, AND OUR HOPE TO KEEP OTHER ELEMENTS OF BILATERAL  
RELATIONS ON EVEN KEEL DESPITE DISAGREEMENT ABOUT THE PLANT.  
I CITED RECENT SUBSTANTIAL USG SALES OF WHEAT AND VEG  
OIL UNDER PL-480 AND CCC. AMB LU GAVE FAMILIAR PRC  
EXHORTATION THAT USG SHOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE SUPPORT,

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AND OBSERVED THAT PAKISTAN IS MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR  
USG TO DO SO, IN LIGHT OF U.S. LEGISLATIVE SITUATION.

B. HE EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBT, BUT NO REGRET, THAT  
BHUTTO COULD EVER RE-EMERGE AS A POLITICAL FIGURE IN  
PAKISTAN. HE THOUGHT THAT BHUTTO'S PARTY, THE PPP,  
MIGHT SPLIT, WITH THE MORE CONSERVATIVE WING (UNDER KAUSAR

NIAZI) PERHAPS EVENTUALLY COMING TO AN ARRANGEMENT WITH SOME OTHER PARTY (PERHAPS ASGHAR KHAN'S TEHRIQ) THAT COULD RESULT IN A COALITION GOVERNMENT AFTER ELECTIONS ARE HELD, PROBABLY IN 1978.

WHEN GEN. ZIA VISITED PEKING RECENTLY HE DIDNOT ASK FOR, AND THE PRC DID NOT OFFER, ANY ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE BEYOND PROJECTS ALREADY AGREED.

2. COMMENT: THE FIRST TWO ITEMS SHOW CHANGES FROM PAST PRC POSITIONS. (A) FOREMERLY, PRC ACTIVELY SUPPORTED GOP'S PLANS FOR ACQUISITION OF REPROCESSING PLANT. I WONDER IF FRENCH EXPLANATIONS TO PRC DURING GOF FONMIN'S VISIT TO PEKING, MAY HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS CHANGE. (B) I HAD PREVIOUSLY DETECTED PRC BIAS TOWARD BHUTTO, AND UNEASINESS ABOUT MILITARY REGIME'S DETERMINATION TO HAVE "ACCOUNTABILITY" FOR BHUTTO CRIMES BEFORE CALLING ELECTION. I THOUGHT I COULD SEE SOME PARALLEL WITH PRC'S PUZZLEMENT DURING WATERGATE, AND THEIR INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST PRES. NIXON. GEN. ZIA DURING PRC VISIT APPARENTLY GAVE SATISFACTORY EXPLANATIONS FOR LEGAL MEASURES AGAINST BHUTTO, WHOM PRC HAD VIEWED AS VALUED OLD FRIEND.  
HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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